



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## **Parks and Recreation Minutes 04/10/2001**

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting came to order at 7:45 PM in the Whittemore Robbins House. Commission members in attendance included Bernice Jones, Don Vitters, Joe Carabello, Mary Tegan and Mark McCabe. Also present were Superintendent of Recreation Joseph Connelly and Mark Shea of the Department of Public Works.

Public present included: Steve Moniak, Arlington Soccer Club

The Commission welcomed new member Mark McCabe.

### *RIC Wrap Up Meeting Summary*

Mr. Connelly reviewed the Rink Improvement Committee sponsored wrap up meeting. Mr. Connelly explained the heating, hot water, parking, suggestion box and bleacher maintenance were among some of the issues. Mr. Carabello stated that the Arlington Sports Center was one of the cleaner facilities he has been in. Mr. Connelly agreed and stated that Bob McKeown and staff would continue to make improvements to the facility.

### *Little League Request for Batting Cage*

The Commission briefly discussed the request. Having no representatives from Little League present the Commission took no action.

### *Protecting Town Fields from Early Use*

Steve Moniak and Mr. Connelly discussed various field-permitting issues. Mr. Moniak asked that the Commission take measures to protect Hills Hill field. Mr. Shea will work with Natural Resources regarding this issue. Mr. Moniak asked about the remaining \$1,000 from the Hills Hill project. Mr. Connelly stated that the money is earmarked for Hills Hill within the Park Beautification Fund. Arlington Soccer Club should give Recreation direction on whether or not to continue to hold the funds or reimburse the soccer club.

Mr. Connelly and Mr. Moniak discussed ways to protect the fields from early and unpermitted use. Mr. Moniak explained that there was early use by a rugby group on Magnolia Field on March 24, 2001. Mr. Connelly summarized the situation and stated that that group stated they would no longer use the field. The Commission discussed the damage if any done to Magnolia Field due to this early use. Mrs. Jones recommended submitting a bylaw at next spring's town meeting. Mrs. Tegan suggested ordering "Field Captain" badges to disperse throughout the organizations. The Commission discussed this suggestion. Mr. Connelly will look into ordering badges. Mr. Carabello made the following motion:

Move that the Park and Recreation Commission assess the Boston Demons Australian Rules Football Club a \$250 penalty for damages done to Magnolia Field with the option to appeal the penalty in front of the Commission at a future meeting. The Motion was seconded by Mrs. Tegan. Mr. Connelly and the Commission discussed the legality of assessing fines. Mr. Connelly will check with Town Counsel. Motion approved 5-0 with the condition that the practice is approved by Town Counsel.

Mr. Connelly reviewed a draft of the Town of Arlington Field Disciplinary Policy. Mr. Connelly stated that in order for the policy to work each organization had to be on board. The Commission reviewed and discussed the policy. Mr. Vitters asked Mr. Connelly to distribute the policy for input and ask the individual organization to attend the next meeting.

*Site Follow Up: Reservoir, Summer St., Peirce School, Hardy School, Spy Pond Shore, Robbins Farm, Cutter*

### Playground, Hill Pond, Scannell

Mr. Vitters and the Commission discussed becoming more involved with the various friends of groups and subcommittees around town. Mr. Shea recommended coordinating a contact person from each group and asking them to stay in contact with the Commission. The Commission approved this idea. Mr. Vitters and the Commission reviewed the following projects:

Reservoir – Meeting May 22nd at Town Hall at 7:30 PM.

Summer Street – Meeting with Rich Bento to review plan.

Peirce School – Review new site plan and changes made to original playground plan. Mr. Vitters will look closely at these changes and discuss them with Mrs. Tegan.

Hardy School Playground – Received Town Meeting approval of \$350,000

Spy Pond Shore – Submitted \$75,000 request for CDBG

Robbins Farm – No change

Cutter Playground – Mr. Shea reviewed a possible donation from Saturn. Mr. Shea will ask for the plans to be submitted to the Commission for approval.

Hills Pond – The Conservation Commission approved the weed control.

Scannell – Mr. Shea reviewed the testing of the irrigation systems.

Mr. Vitters reminded Mr. Shea of the importance of making sure the irrigation was working at all the fields. Mr. Shea stated that they will begin this process on May 1.

### Warrant Article Presentation

Mr. Vitters explained that he discussed the article with Town Counsel. Town Counsel recommends leaving the article in the warrant. Mr. Vitters asked Mr. Connelly to forward the article as originally worded to Town Counsel and himself.

### Modified Capital Plan

Mr. Vitters reviewed the revised plan. Mr. Connelly explained that the attempt was to evenly spread out the requests. The Commission reviewed the plan.

### Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes of March 13, 2001. Mrs. Jones motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 5-0.

The Commission adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Joseph J. Connelly, Supt. of Recreation